OPERATIONS

The Norfolk Department of Public Health hosted five vaccination clinics last week and administered more than 3,100 doses.

Rite-Aid is partnering with the Norfolk Community Services Board to vaccinate pre-registered high-risk residents in group homes. The first clinic was at the end of February and the second clinic was last week. The Federal Pharmacy Program is providing doses for this initiative.

Everyone who wants to get a vaccine should verify and update their pre-registration records now by visiting vaccinate.virginia.gov or calling 877-VAX-IN-VA — The form has been updated with new questions.

Virginia is now administering vaccines from Johnson and Johnson, Moderna and Pfizer. All three are safe and protect against severe illness, hospitalization and death.

The Virginia Department of Health anticipates vaccination clinics will be open to all adults by May 1st assuming supplies remain steady.

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention issued and updated guidance on March 8th on what people can do once fully vaccinated. Full vaccination occurs two weeks after final vaccine dose.

CITY SUPPORT

City staff continue to support the public health vaccination clinics at the Military Circle Mall location. This includes administering the vaccine and planning clinics to ensure equitable vaccine distribution. In addition, staff from multiple departments are working with state and federal partners for large-scale vaccination clinics that will start at the end of the month. More details to follow as the plan is finalized.

COMMUNICATIONS SUMMARY

The Office of Communications is supporting the Norfolk Department of Public Health with its outreach and information efforts. City staff completed the following actions this week:

- Promoted VaccineFinder https://vaccinefinder.org/ on city-owned platforms, distributed to civic leagues, Nextdoor and public health’s Facebook page.
- Reinforced the effectiveness of three COVID-19 vaccines in preventing hospitalizations and death. Messages in English and Spanish posted on city and public health’s platforms.